Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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NEW MAILING LIST

FOREIGN DISPOSAL OF FARM COMMODITIES

The Foreign Agricultural Service is establishing an informational mailing list as a service for United States agricultural trade interests who need to keep currently informed regarding the operation of the new farm commodity foreign disposal program under Title I, Public Law 480.

This mailing list (code designated FAS-FSD) will be used for distribution from time to time of press releases, administrative announcements, regulations, progress reports and miscellaneous news about the foreign surplus disposal program. Such material will be of special interest to persons and groups engaged in agricultural export acitivities.

Individuals and organizations in the United States requesting information will receive it without cost. Requests should be addressed to the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. For convenience, this page, with the address blanks below filled in, may be torn off and mailed in to indicate your desire to be placed on the FAS-FSD list.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains.

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GRASS SEED SUPPLY IN U. K. CAUSES CONCERN

The short supply of grass and clover seeds in the United Kingdom is causing some concern, according to a published statement by the British National Farmers' Union. Not only was the quantity carried over at the end of last season much below average, but the bad weather has restricted stocks likely to be available from the seed harvest at home and on the Continent.

Precise yields from this harvest are not yet known, but the present shortage will in any case probably be felt to some extent after the 1955 harvest.

The NFU has given these facts to growers of Aberystwyth strains of grass whose contracts are expiring with the present year's harvest. It has recommended that such growers should, before plowing up their stands, seriously consider leaving them for another year. A grower deciding to do so must arrange an extension to his contract with his contracting merchant, or enter into a contract with another merchant.

EUROPEAN SEED SHORTAGE CHANGES U. K. IMPORT PROGRAM

The United Kingdom has revised its seeds import program because of serious seedcrop failures, according to the American Embassy, London. In the May program of the Ministry of Agriculture no import permits were allocated for seeds from dollar countries. The latest program permits imports without restriction either as to quantity or value from nondollar countries. Also, unlimited licenses are offered to cover imports of red clover seed from Canada.

When this program is completed the Ministry will reexamine the grass and clover seed situation, and if the supply still is inadequate will extend the same arrangements to Canadian timothy and alsike clover. These permits for imports are based on country of origin; thus seedsmen are not permitted to buy dollar-country seeds through nondollar areas.

WESTERN GERMANY ANNOUNCES 1954-55 PRICE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR DOMESTIC GRAIN

Western German producers are assured of continued high grain prices for their 1954-55 crop as a result of recent marketing legislation, according to John J. Haggerty, Agricultural Attache in Bonn.

For the current crop, producer breadgrain prices will be maintained within an average range of from DM 420 to DM 436 per metric ton ($2.72 to $2.83 per bushel) for wheat and from DM 400 to DM 416 per metric ton ($2.42 to $2.52 per bushel) for rye, average quality basis. Coarse grain prices will be maintained within a range of from DM 350 to DM 440 per metric ton ($1.82 to $2.28 per bushel) for barley and from DM 300 to DM 375 per metric ton ($1.04 to $1.30 per bushel) for oats, average quality basis.

In operation, the maintenance of producer grain prices is the responsibility of the Import and Storage Agency of the Western German Government. Although grain marketing is handled by private dealers, including cooperatives, intervention by the Import and Storage Agency is authorized whenever necessary to insure that prices paid to producers stay within prescribed limits, or ranges. Such intervention by the Agency includes the purchase and sale of domestic grain as well as import control, stockpiling, and related measures.

In order to hold grain prices within the limits specified by law, the Import and Storage Agency must purchase at the lower limit all domestic grain offered by producers and sell on demand at the upper limit to millers or other processors and consumers. In this manner, stability of producer grain prices is maintained.

Producer prices for breadgrain vary according to the locality in which the grain is produced and the month in which sales are made. For price purposes, Western Germany is divided into 4 wheat and 4 rye marketing areas. For both wheat and rye, the maximum area price differential for similar quality grain is DM 8 per metric ton, or 5.2 cents per bushel for wheat and 4.8 cents per bushel for rye.

To encourage farm storage and orderly marketing, a seasonal spread of approximately DM 20 per metric ton (13.0 cents per bushel for wheat and 12.1 cents per bushel for rye) is provided. Taking the area and seasonal variations into consideration, breadgrain prices to growers will be maintained within an average price range of DM 420 to DM 436 per metric ton ($2.72 to $2.83 per bushel) for wheat and DM 400 to DM 416 per metric ton ($2.42 to $2.52 per bushel) for rye.

Grower prices for coarse grain will be maintained within fixed ranges, as in the case of breadgrain, but no area or seasonal variations are provided for. Barley prices may range of DM 350 to DM 440 per metric ton ($1.82 to $2.28 per bushel), with variations for the different types marketed. Producer prices for oats may range of DM 300 to DM 375 per metric ton ($1.04 to $1.30 per bushel), and a breakdown into feed and industrial oats is provided for.

Guaranteed fixed producer prices are also provided for original and trade seed (certified once grown original seed). The Import and Storage Agency is responsible for the seed program which is aimed at insuring an adequate supply of high quality seed to farmers.

Since the above prices are based on average quality, actual receipts by producers will depend on the quality of grain delivered. Presumably, premiums and discounts have again been fixed as in previous years for such factors as test weight, moisture, foreign material, and damage, but details for the 1954-55 marketing season have not been reported.

OFFICIAL PRODUCER PRICES FOR GRAIN IN WEST GERMANY, 1954-55

Grain	Producer Prices			
	DM per Metric Ton		Dollars per Bushel	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Breadgrain 1/				
Wheat	420	436	2.72	2.83
Rye 2/	400	416	2.42	2.52
Coarse Grain 1/				
Feed Barley	350	390	1.82	2.02
Industrial Barley	375	400	1.95	2.08
Brewing Barley	410	440	2.13	2.28
Feed Oats	300	365	1.04	1.26
Industrial Oats	315	375	1.09	1.30
Seed Grain 3/				
Winter Wheat	480	595	3.11	3.86
Spring Wheat	485	625	3.15	4.05
Spelt	---	520	---	3.37
Winter Rye (normal)	440	575	2.66	3.48
Liho and Hessdorf				
Johannes Feed Rye	445	645	2.69	3.90
Winter Rye, Tetra	---	625	---	3.78
Spring Rye	445	625	2.69	3.78
Winter Barley, Four Row	460	565	2.39	2.93
Winter Barley, Two Row	495	600	2.57	3.11
Spring Barley	485	600	2.52	3.11
Oats, White and Yellow	420	550	1.45	1.90
Oats, Black	425	590	1.47	2.04

Source: Based on Foreign Service Reports.

1/ Average price ranges for average quality grain.
2/ Includes DM 20 ($12.1 cents per bushel) "Delivery Premium" for rye.
3/ First, or lower price, for Trade Seed (Certified, once grown original seed) with higher price for Original Seed. Prices listed consist of base price and authorized surcharge.

U. S. RICE EXPORTS TO
ASIAN MARKETS DECLINE

Rice exports from the United States in the August-July 1953-54 marketing year were 15,654,000 bags (100 pounds), a decline of 9 percent as compared with 17,159,000 bags in the preceding year. Increased exports to countries in the Western Hemisphere and Europe failed to offset a marked reduction in exports to Asia. Rice was not exported to Ceylon, Indonesia, and the Philippines, important markets in the 2 years before, and shipments declined to Korea.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries, averages 1940-41/49-50, annual 1950-51/53-54 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	Average 1940-41 to 1944-45	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53 2/	1953-54 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
WESTERN HEMISPHERE:						
Canada	347	403	381	443	601	633
British Honduras	5	13	23	22	3	17
British West Indies	38	97	24	54	81	6
Cuba	3,142	4,923	6,965	5,118	4,876	4,755
Netherlands Antilles	5	9	25	25	41	53
Venezuela	22	76	354	196	86	215
Bolivia	2	12	3/	4	7	5
Colombia	3/	1	3/	3/	3/	314
Other countries	57	87	17	34	8	29
Total W. Hemisphere	3,618	5,621	7,789	5,896	5,703	6,027
EUROPE:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	0	73	161	57	52	206
France	14	11	3/	3/	3/	0
Germany	0	14	1	1	3/	29
Greece	24	109	295	209	3/	11
Iceland	8	10	3	3	8	3/
Netherlands	43	3	2	0	0	12
Sweden	46	3/	3/	3/	3/	1
Switzerland	46	32	89	21	38	57
United Kingdom	380	1	0	0	3/	1
U.S.S.R.	270	9	0	0	0	0
Other countries	5	76	5	0	2	23
Total Europe	836	338	556	291	100	340
ASIA:						
Saudi Arabia	3	80	104	91	138	130
Ceylon	4	0	3/	741	647	0
Indonesia	3/	646	9	1,799	1,100	0
Philippines	2	1,136	0	71	3/	3/
China	3/	796	0	0	0	0
Korea	0	98	271	2,821	4/ 4,631	4/ 590
Hong Kong	3/	36	0	0	179	0
Japan	1	279	326	5,430	3,999	8,444
Ryukyu Islands	0	0	0	0	616	0
Other countries	9	24	6	9	5	25
Total Asia	19	3,095	716	10,962	11,315	9,189
Total Oceania	10	5	3	13	19	17
Liberia	38	36	23	73	22	67
Other Africa	45	1	3	4	3/	6
Other countries	-	-	-	-	-	5/ 8
Total World	4,566	9,096	9,090	17,239	17,159	15,654

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the Foreign Operations Administration. 5/ Starting with January 1954, "other countries" includes shipments valued at less than $500 each when the number of such shipments in a given month is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

As the result of greatly increased exports to Japan, rice exports to Asia totaled 9,189,000 bags. This was 28 percent less than the average exports in the 2 preceding years. In contrast with those years, exports to Japan in 1953-54 of 8,444,000 bags represented 92 percent of rice exports to Asia; whereas in 1951-52, exports to Japan of 5,430,000 bags equaled 50 percent of the total to that Continent, and in 1952-53 shipments to Japan of 3,999,000 bags (revised) were 35 percent of rice exports to Asia. Some rice was shipped to Korea at the beginning of the 1953-54 year through official channels of the United States Government.

Total exports of rice to the countries of the Western Hemisphere exceeded those of 1952-53, despite a decline of around 120,000 bags in exports to Cuba. Rice exports to Canada, British Honduras, Netherlands Antilles, Venezuela, and Colombia were larger than in 1952-53. Some of this increase in exports was in the form of rough rice.

A downward revision for rice exports to Japan in 1952-53 and 1953-54, first published in the accompanying table, is accounted for mainly by the subtraction of the exports of 616,000 bags to the Ryukyu Islands. Prior to January 1954, rice exports to the Ryukyus were included in official trade statistics under rice exports to Japan.

CANADA REPORTS SMALLER WHEAT MILLINGS

Wheat milling in Canada for the year ended July 1954 was the smallest since 1949-50, according to reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total grindings for the season recently ended were 91.9 million bushels, compared with 106.7 million for the preceding year and the record of 127.8 million in 1946-47. Flour output for the 1953-54 year was 20.8 million barrels, compared with 23.9 million a year earlier.

Flour production reached its peak for the season in October, when the outturn was 1.9 million barrels. The smallest outturns were in the first and last months of the season, with only 1.4 million barrels reported for August 1953 and 1.6 million for July 1954. The flour extraction rate during 1953-54 averaged 74 percent, on the basis of the preliminary estimates.

According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour for the year totaled 10.3 million barrels, compared with 12.6 million barrels a year earlier. This is also well below the exports for the 10 years ended July 1945 when 12.1 million bushels were exported, on the average. Flour exported during the past season was about half the total production.

CANADA: Wheat milled, flour production and exports, 1953-54 with comparisons

Year beginning Aug. 1	Wheat Milled	Wheat flour 1/	
		Production	Exports 2/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 barrels	1,000 barrels
Average 1935-1939	67,845	15,003	4,900
Average 1940-1945	99,705	22,402	12,092
1945	118,075	26,435	14,470
1946	127,775	28,588	16,896
1947	109,822	24,160	13,662
1948	90,897	20,380	10,688
1949	90,083	20,259	10,151
1950	106,748	23,630	12,427
1951	104,494	22,842	11,356
1952	106,727	23,866	12,556
1953 3/	91,868	20,804	10,292

1/ Reported in barrels of 196 pounds.
2/ Based on Customs returns. Exports, 1945-1952 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.
3/ Preliminary.

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics

PORTUGAL'S JANUARY-JUNE 1954 TOBACCO IMPORTS

Portugal imported 5.4 million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco during the first half of 1954 compared with 4.8 million pounds for the first half of 1953. The United States supplied 3.8 million pounds during January-June of 1954 -- about 300,000 pounds more than in January-June 1953.

The United States held its relative share of the Portuguese market; 72 percent for the first 6 months of 1953 compared with 70 percent for the same period of 1954.

Portugal: Imports of Unmanufactured Tobacco by Country of Origin January-June, 1953 and 1954

Country of Origin	Jan-June 1953	Jan-June 1954
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United States	3,508	3,796
Portuguese Possessions	319	373
Greece	669	855
Other	345	398
Total	4,841	5,422

SWEDISH TAX CONCESSIONS
STIMULATE CIGAR SALES

Sales of cigars and cigarillos in Sweden during the first half of 1954 increased 25 and 14 percent respectively over the corresponding period of 1953. This is the direct result of tax revisions by the Swedish Government designed to stimulate the consumption of these products and to hold cigarette consumption at its present level.

On April 1, 1954 new taxes went into effect that lowered the retail price of cigars and cigarillos 10 percent while raising the tax rate on cigarettes to increase the retail price 4-5 percent. This differential has evidently been quite successful as is shown by the following chart:

Sweden: Sales of Tobacco Products; Comparison of First Half of 1954 with First Half of 1953

Kind	Domestic Products	Imported Products	Total
	(Percentage Change in Quantity)		
Cigars	+ 21.0	+ 44.0	+ 24.6
Cigarillos	+ 14.1	+ 11.6	+ 14.0
Cigarettes	+ 1.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.6
Smoking Tobacco	+ 2.2	- 21.4	+ 0.8
Chewing Tobacco	- 2.4	--	- 2.4
Snuff	+ 0.1	--	+ 0.1

WATER RESERVES LOW IN SOUTH
AFRICA'S FLUE-CURED AREA

Tobacco growers in the Rustenburg area of the Union of South Africa are disturbed over the supply of irrigation water for this year. The major part of the Union's flue-cured tobacco is produced in this area under irrigation. Transplanting of the 1954-55 crop will begin in October. Irrigation officials say there is enough water to transplant but if there is not a substantial rainfall soon after planting, the outlook for the crop would become unfavorable.

The Union of South Africa has been promoting the production of flue cured tobacco in order to move it into world export markets. They have met with some success in developing overseas markets but a drought with the attending crop poundage and quality loss would be a serious set-back.

PANAMA PROHIBITS IMPORTATIONS
OF NEWLY HATCHED CHICKS

The Panamanian Office of Price Control's Resolution No. 76 of September 13, 1954, enacted the same day as Resolution No. 75 reported in the October 4, 1954 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets, prohibits, effective November 1, 1954, the importation of newly hatched chicks into Panama.

Because of what the Resolution states to be ample notification, importers and/or shippers will not be permitted to enter any shipments of newly hatched chicks into the Republic subsequent to November 1, 1954.

CANADIAN TURKEY RAISERS FAVOR
EMBARGO ON U. S. TURKEYS

During the past two years Canada has become an important export market for United States turkeys. So far this year some 2 million pounds of United States turkeys have been shipped to Canada. Recently this trade was denounced by Canadian turkey raisers who have asked the federal government for a temporary embargo against import of turkeys from the United States for the remainder of this year, pending decision on a request for upward revision of tariffs.

Members of the Canadian Turkey Federation have stated that the combination of a bumper United States crop of turkeys and low Canadian tariffs has led to tremendous imports, and causing many marginal producers to go out of business. They also state that United States tariffs on dressed turkeys are twice as high as Canada's.

United States tariff on dressed turkeys is 10 cents a pound while the ad valorem rate in Canada for United States turkeys is 12½ percent of the fair market value of these birds established by the current market in the United States ratified under (GATT) General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade January, 1948.

The Federation reports that 2,000,000 pounds of turkeys have been imported this year, an increase over last year of almost 300 percent.

IRISH MEAT
SITUATION

Shipments of fresh meat and cattle from Ireland to Britain since the decontrol of British meat in early July have been greater than for the corresponding weeks in any past year. These large shipments are taking place at a time when cattle and meat exports from Ireland to Britain are generally moderate. Present indications are that cattle shipments during September, October, and November, the usual peak months, will be unusually large this year.

Prices for pigs have fallen steadily from the equivalent of about 33 cents per pound, dressed, in July 1953 to 27 cents in June 1954 and have continued to fall since then. The drop of 9 percent in feed costs during the same period, compared to the drop of 18 percent in pig prices, leaves the pig producers in a more unfavorable financial position than in 1953. As a consequence, the number of sows kept for breeding is being reduced from the high number of 100,600 head on January 1, 1954.

Pig receipts at bacon factories in Ireland for the 35 weeks ended August 28 were reported to be 764,000 head compared to 640,000 and 414,000 for the same periods in 1953 and 1952, respectively.

Cattle prices continue high, with prices for both store (feeder) and fat cattle being slightly above those of 1953.

Irish exporters of beef and pork products continue to be interested in the United States market and, while currently exporting only small amounts of frozen beef, bacon and hams to the United States, they watch relative price levels in the two countries with the hope of increasing dollar sales.

DUTCH BUTTER SUPPLY CUMBERSOME

September stocks of butter held in the Netherlands by the I.V.Z. (the Purchasing Organization for Dairy Products) totaled almost 30 million pounds and were increasing daily as Dutch butterfat production was outrunning consumption.

This surplus of butter stocks is accounted for largely by the fact that milk for fluid consumption is standardized at a 2.5 percent fat content.

A campaign by the dairy industry, farm organizations and the Dutch press to increase the fat content of fluid milk has been of no avail. The argument that by increasing the fat content the entire butter surplus would disappear is met by the Minister of Agriculture with the surmise that the higher price necessary for the 3 percent fluid milk would result in reduced fluid milk consumption and the problem would remain, although in another form. The Minister also contends that fat consumption in the Netherlands is adequate.

Stocks of powdered milk have also been piling up as export sales have remained small and most powdered milk production has been moving to I.V.Z. storage. Stocks of spray process nonfat dry milk solids held by I.V.Z. in September was 32.5 million pounds; roller powder stocks amounted to 9.6 million pounds.

Trade in cheese has remained very good all through 1954 and as a result, there has been no need for sales to I.V.Z. Dutch cheese is moving into foreign trade at about 26 cents a pound.

AUSTRALIAN "AIR BEEF"

More than a million pounds of beef have been flown from a slaughter plant in Glenroy to the port city of Windham in the Northern part of Western Australia in recent weeks. The "air-beef" scheme is a cooperative project of ranchers in Australia and a commercial airline. It was started to avoid losses in weight of cattle through long overland trips to killing plants, at port cities. Cattle are slaughtered at Glenroy; the carcasses are chilled and flown to Windham for export. It is expected that slaughter at this plant will amount to about 4,000 head of cattle this year.

The Commonwealth Treasurer of Australia announced on September 16 that he had appointed an expert panel to inquire into and report to the Government on the practicability and economy of air transport of cattle or beef in and from Northern Australia. The Government is greatly interested in this project as it appears to be a method by which increased meat production could be achieved in Australia with larger shipments to the United Kingdom.

ARGENTINE-BOLIVIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

The trade agreement between Argentina and Boliva, signed September 9, 1954, calls for the shipment of up to $5,000,000 in live cattle and $2,000,000 in wool, from Argentina to Bolivia.

The purpose of the agreement, as a whole, is to stimulate a larger exchange of products by the gradual lowering of tariff barriers, the coordination of monetary exchange and rate policies and by the improvement of transportation and communications facilities between the two countries. Also, to create a favorable climate for the investment of capital between the two countries, to decide on special arrangements to supply products to their neighboring frontier zones, and to simplify the transit of goods through one another's territory to third countries.

The treaty will remain in effect for 3 years. Prices and revisions in the lists of articles to be traded will be considered every 6 months by a mixed commission. The largest item on the Bolivian list, for the first 6-month period, is $5,000,000 in petroleum. All values, prices and payments under the agreement must be made in United States dollars unless another currency is accepted by both countries, and whenever one country becomes a debtor in excess of $3,000,000, it is obliged to reduce its debt below that limit by paying in dollar drafts drawn on a New York bank, or in gold.

MILK PRODUCTION IN ISRAEL 18 PERCENT ABOVE 1953

Milk production in Israel during the first 6 months of 1954 was running 18 percent over the first half of 1953. Demand, however, for domestic production was held down by the availability of cheaper imported milk products and a larger choice of other foodstuffs than heretofore available. As a result, milk which was expected to go into fluid consumption has been made into cheese with the expectation for sales when stocks of imported goods have decreased.

Because of the present milk surplus condition the Israeli Government allotted approximately $225,000 for subsidization of milk used in industrial production. At the same time the addition of imported milk powder to local fluid milk was discontinued.

SWEDEN REDUCES MEAT PRICES

In accordance with an agreement between the farm organizations and the government, prices of meat in Sweden will be further reduced by an average of 12.4 ore per kilogram (equivalent to about 1 cent per pound) during the marketing year 1954-55. Meat production, particularly pork, has increased materially this year and prices of live animals are somewhat below a year earlier. In recent months prices of small pigs have been at the Government's support level of 3 kroner per kilogram (equivalent to 26 cents per pound).

No significant changes in the method of price control have been planned for 1954-55. As previously, prices will be regulated in accordance with an agreement between the Government and the principal wholesale agency, the Swedish Farmers Meat Marketing Association. Under this arrangement prices of the different kinds of meat and different cuts may vary freely but the average wholesale price level for meat should, throughout a full marketing year, be maintained at a certain agreed-upon level. The average price to producers during the 1953-54 period was equivalent to about 30 cents per pound.

Exchange and other government controls have prevented meat from moving freely into Sweden in spite of the fact that prices in Sweden are considerably higher than in many markets. During the calendar year 1953 imports amounted to 35 million pounds on a dressed meat basis compared with exports of 21 million pounds, or a net import balance of 14 million pounds. Imports from the United States were not allowed due to exchange restrictions. The exports in 1953 included bacon shipments to the United Kingdom under an annual contract. All hides and skins from dollar areas were freed from exchange and licensing controls effective October 1.

Price relationships as established by the Government will favor continued large production of pork in the coming year as prices of dairy products will be reduced about as much as prices of hogs and feed grains. Prospects are that the coarse grain crops of 1954 will be considerably smaller than a year earlier, but larger quantities of rain-damaged wheat and rye will be available for feeding.

VENEZUELAN EGG IMPORTERS SEEK ABOLITION OF DUTIES

The egg importers of the Venezuelan State of Zulia and particularly in the capital city of Maracaibo have requested the Ministry of Development to abolish the import duties on eggs. The duty is approximately 27 cents per dozen for size small eggs but is exempt in all Venezuelan ports except Maracaibo where half the duty, 13½ cents per dozen for size small eggs, is collected.

In asking for the elimination of the $13\frac{1}{2}$ cent duty in Maracaibo importers frankly state they can by-pass this duty by getting their eggs through Puerto Cabello. The cost of trucking eggs from Puerto Cabello to Maracaibo is said to be burdensome, however, though cheaper than paying the duty. The quality of United States imported eggs, however, suffers during the long haul in unrefrigerated trucks through the hot country.

According to the importers they are today handling 5,000 cases of eggs monthly by this round-about means and the local egg producers of Zulia are capable of producing only 30 percent of requirements.

Import figures for the first 6 months of 1954 show over 40,000 cases were imported through Puerto Cabello and approximately 70 cases through Maracaibo.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT TO TRANSFER FLOUR IMPORTS TO PRIVATE TRADERS

Bulk purchase and subsidization of flour imports by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago will cease January 1, 1955, according to Kenedon Steins, American Vice Consul, Port of Spain. After that date, flour procurement will be handled exclusively by private importers and import licenses will be issued for flour from all sources.

In recent years, practically all of the flour imports came from Canada due to agreements with certain shipping companies under which Government purchases had to be shipped out of the Canadian ports of Montreal, St. John, or Halifax. For the years 1949-50 through 1954-54, Canadian and United States flour exports to Trinidad and Tobago averaged 65.1 thousand metric tons annually, of which 98 percent was from Canadian wheat, including 92 percent milled in Canada and 6 percent milled in bond in the United States for subsequent reexport. The transfer of imports to the private trade is expected to result in increased imports of flour from the United States.

Trinidad and Tobago imports flour from U. S. and Canada for stated periods

Year	United States			Canada	Total
	Wholly of U. S. Origin	Not Wholly of U. S. Origin	Total		
	--- Thousand Metric Tons Wheat Equivalent ---				
1949-50	0.8	0.4	1.2	61.4	62.6
1950-51	1.7	0.1	1.8	61.1	62.9
1951-52	1.9	2.8	4.7	65.3	70.0
1952-53	1.7	14.9	16.6	49.2	65.8
1953-54	0.1	2.5	2.6	61.4	64.0
Five-Year Av.	1.2	4.2	5.4	59.7	65.1

Source: Compiled from official exports statistics for specified countries.

Importers have been advised that applications for flour import licenses may be submitted now to the Ministry of Labor, Industry, and Commerce. Flour shipments, however, should be scheduled to arrive in Trinidad for consumption starting January 1, 1955.

RECENT CHANGES IN EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS

Exchange restrictions remain a major obstacle to United States agricultural exports. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has recently published its Fifth Annual Report on Exchange Restrictions. Part of this report contains a concise account of recent developments in Europe and the Sterling area--where restrictions have been relaxed--, and in Latin America and the Far and Middle East--where for the most part restrictions have been continued because of balance-of-payments difficulties. This part of the IMF report has been reproduced in Foreign Agriculture Circular (FATP-7-54). Copies may be secured from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, 25, D.C.

NICARAGUA CONTINUES TO EXPAND COTTON PRODUCTION

Nicaragua's 1954-55 cotton crop is expected to reach a record of 130,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), an increase of 30 percent over the previous year's crop. The area planted to cotton this season, estimated at 165,000 acres, is also a record high and points to the enthusiastic interest in the production of cotton which prevails in this country. The following table illustrates the extraordinary expansion which has taken place in the past 5 years.

Year	Area (1,000 acres)	Production (1,000 bales)
1950-51	43.0	22.0
1951-52	86.0	47.0
1952-53	80.0	55.0
1953-54	100.0	100.0
1954-55 estimate	165.0	130.0

The high yields obtained in 1952-53 made cotton a profitable crop in Nicaragua and the area planted to cotton was expanded in 1953-54. High yields were again obtained in 1953-54 and prices generally were stronger than in the previous year. This combination of circumstances has created intense interest in cotton. Complete information on new plantings is not yet available but it is clear that a great increase in area will be registered.

So far this season rainfall has been too heavy for cotton. In some places, on rougher terrain, plantings have been partially washed out. In general, however, the appearance of the young plants is good. The present date is quite early for reliable indication of the probable development of the crop and forecasts of production must be considered highly tentative.

Domestic consumption is small, thus the bulk of Nicaragua's production is available for export. The estimated supply and distribution of cotton for the marketing season 1953-54 is as follows:

	Bales
Stocks August 1, 1953	16,000
Production	100,000
Total supplies	116,000
Domestic consumption	5,000
Exports	102,000
Total disappearance	107,000
Stocks, July 31, 1954	9,000
Total distribution	116,000

AUSTRALIA'S FATS AND OILS PRODUCTION 1953-54

Production of fats and oils in Australia in 1953-54 is estimated at around 139,000 short tons, or approximately the same as in the previous year, according to the American Embassy, Canberra. Vegetable oil output from both domestic and imported raw materials is estimated at 3,810 tons, or less than half of the 8,040 tons produced in 1952-53. This is offset, however, by moderate increases in whale oil, lard, and tallow.

Table 1 - AUSTRALIA: Production of specified oilseeds, oils and fats, 1953-54 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Commodity	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 1/
Flaxseed	8,150	11,140	3,300
Peanuts	5,340	9,920	22,120
Sunflower seed	665	780	615
Tung nuts	28	5	30
Lard	4,440	6,150	6,500
Tallow	76,330	107,280	110,000
Whale oil	10,840	17,690	19,030

1/ Estimated.

Source: American Embassy, Canberra.

Imports of vegetable oils in 1952-53 (July-June) totaled 10,967 tons. This is sharply below 1951-52 imports, mainly because of a reduction in linseed oil receipts. Oilseed imports of 4,268 tons were about 30 percent below the preceding year.

Table 2 - AUSTRALIA: Imports of specified oilseeds and oils, 1952-53 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Commodity	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53 1/
Flaxseed	15,374	2,257	280
Peanuts	1,666	2,895	3,081
Other oilseeds	915	999	907
Linseed oil	9,479	20,711	6,697
Olive oil	1,118	1,109	1,181
Peanut oil	322	612	765
Castor oil	3,497	2,737	690
Tung oil	1,509	1,391	1,196
Rapeseed oil	282	451	112
Other vegetable oils	699	861	326
Animal fats and oils	3	4	4
Marine oils	1,316	2,090	764

1/ Preliminary.

Source: American Embassy, Canberra.

Exports of tallow and lard from Australia in 1952-53 were 28,450 and 92 tons, respectively, considerably larger than in the previous year. Whale oil shipments totaled 16,901 tons against 10,163 tons in 1951-52.

INDONESIA'S COPRA OUTPUT DOWN, PALM OIL UP IN FIRST HALF 1954

Indonesia's production of copra during January-June 1954 totaled 213,670 long tons, basis Copra Foundation purchases, a decrease of more than 3 percent from first half 1953, reports R. J. MacQuaid, American Embassy, Djakarta. The total output of copra in Indonesia actually is considerably greater than indicated by Copra Foundation purchases. However, data are available for only the Foundation purchases and these usually are referred to as "copra production."

Output of palm oil and palm kernels in the first 6 months of 1954 amounted to 86,440 and 22,340 short tons, respectively, against 84,660 and 22,840 tons in January-June 1953. Calendar year 1953 production of oilseeds and palm oil in Indonesia, with comparisons, is given in the following table:

Table 1 - INDONESIA: Production of oilseeds and palm oil, 1953 with comparisons
(Short tons)

Commodity	1951	1952	1953 1/
Copra 2/	3/ 523,550	3/ 379,500	3/ 454,060
Palm kernels	32,800	42,450	46,710
Peanuts, shelled	4/	268,600	255,730
Soybeans	4/	310,300	325,180
Palm oil	133,590	160,900	177,000

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Copra Foundation purchases. 3/ Long tons. 4/ Not available.

Source: American Embassy, Djakarta.

Indonesia's exports of copra, palm oil, and palm kernels in the first half of 1954 were 145,594 long tons, 60,211 short tons, and 19,470 short tons, respectively, or 131, 109, and 95 percent of the corresponding figures for 1953. Data regarding 12 months 1953 exports of oilseeds and oils from Indonesia are shown below.

Table 2 - INDONESIA: Exports of oilseeds and palm oil, 1953 with comparisons
(Short tons)

Commodity	1951	1952	1953 1/
Copra	2/ 516,740	2/ 338,217	2/ 299,104
Palm oil	107,608	132,491	145,692
Palm kernels	27,667	40,975	45,829
Peanuts, shelled	13,842	511	2,436
Peanuts, unshelled	3,668	280	9,001

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Long tons.

Source: American Embassy, Djakarta.

In calendar year 1953, Indonesia's consumption of oilseeds and vegetable oils included copra--193,645 long tons; palm kernels--2,185 short tons; peanuts--246,730 tons; soybeans--325,180 tons; and palm oil--34,690 tons.

NORWAY'S SUMMER OUTPUT OF WHALE OIL DOWN, SPERM OIL UP

Norway's summer production of whale and sperm oil in 1954 is forecast at about 1,590 and 900 short tons, respectively, as compared to 1,850 and 440 tons in 1953, according to the American Embassy, Oslo. As of August 28, 1954, the 4 Norwegian shore stations had produced 1,471 tons of whale oil and 813 tons of sperm oil. The summer season terminates on November 1. Production of both whale and sperm oil by Norway during the 1953-54 Antarctic season is reported as 203,400 tons, including the output of Norway's Husvik Harbor, South Georgia shore station. (See Foreign Crops and Markets of July 19, 1954, page 68.)

FIRST FORECAST INDICATES LARGE BARLEY AND OATS CROP

World production of barley and oats in 1954 is one of the largest of record, on the basis of preliminary estimates available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. The outlook for a record or near-record outturn is attributed to a record barley harvest. The oats crop, though above average, is indicated to be substantially below the high level of the Twenties. A considerable expansion in barley acreage, since the prewar period, is noted for most areas. In contrast, acreage in oats has been reduced sharply in some important producing areas, notably in Europe, where a reduction of 18 percent from the 1935-39 average is estimated.

The current estimate of the 1954 production of these grains, on a tonnage basis, is about 138 million short tons. That would be 4 percent above the good 1953 outturn and 9 percent above the prewar average (1935-39. The most important factor in the increase was the greatly expanded acreage of these grains in the United States.

Present prospects point to some increase in import requirements of these grains in Western Europe during the present marketing season. It remains to be seen to what extent feeding of low quality wheat, which is a factor in a number of countries this season, will substitute for usual feed grains and, thus, reduce import requirements. Considerably below average harvests in Eastern Europe reduce significantly quantities available from that normally surplus grain area. Smaller outturns in Turkey and Iraq also limit export possibilities from these usual sources, especially for barley.

Barley production for the world is tentatively estimated at 2.8 billion bushels. This is slightly above the large 1953 production and is sharply above the average periods. The bulk of the expansion from the average is in the United States and Western Europe. The oats crop is forecast at 4.4 billion bushels, compared with 4.2 billion in 1953 and the prewar average of 4.4 billion. Acreage of oats is considerably smaller than the prewar acreage, chiefly because of greatly reduced acreage under oats in Europe and the Soviet Union.

Production of barley and oats is somewhat larger than in 1953 in North America because of the increase in the United States, which more than offset a substantial decrease in Canada. Barley production in the United States is estimated at 369 million bushels. This is a near-record crop, second only to the 429 million-bushel harvest of 1942. Acreage was about 25 percent below the record acreage of that year, but yields this season were at an all-time high of 28.6 bushels per acre. Canada's barley crop is estimated at 212 million bushels, on the basis of conditions September 1. Since that date, however, unfavorable conditions have continued and will probably result in further reductions in the estimate. The next official estimate will be released November 5.

Production of oats in the United States is estimated at 1,509 million bushels. This near-record crop is about a fourth larger than the 1953 harvest and 45 percent above the prewar average.

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-54 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average		1952	1953	1954 4/	Average		1952	1953	1954 4/	Average		1952	1953	1954 4/
	1935-39	1945-49				1935-39	1945-49				1935-39	1945-49			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	4,291	6,717	8,477	8,911	7,856	20.7	21.5	34.4	29.4	26.9	88,882	144,688	291,379	262,065	211,605
Mexico	374	457	571	581	-	10.6	13.2	13.2	13.4	-	3,960	6,032	7,560	7,800	-
United States	10,817	10,713	8,244	8,534	12,885	22.1	25.5	27.4	28.2	28.6	238,622	273,306	226,014	241,015	369,050
Estimated total 5/	15,480	17,890	17,290	18,030	21,320	-	-	-	-	-	331,000	424,000	525,000	511,000	589,000
EUROPE															
Austria	401	293	371	373	373	32.6	24.3	33.7	40.3	37.0	13,087	7,127	12,500	15,050	13,800
Belgium 6/	74	198	222	228	177	48.2	47.4	56.4	58.6	56.5	3,570	9,388	12,520	13,360	10,000
Denmark	946	1,079	1,401	1,543	1,495	55.9	59.6	69.8	64.9	61.5	52,881	64,345	97,830	100,130	92,000
Finland	280	346	380	440	435	28.2	24.6	28.4	34.1	31.7	7,900	8,500	10,800	15,000	13,800
France	1,897	2,019	2,656	2,973	3,059	27.9	26.0	29.9	34.6	36.3	53,004	52,500	79,420	102,830	111,120
Western Germany	7/ 2,005	1,288	1,747	1,948	1,791 7/	39.4	34.0	46.2	48.8	47.8 7/	79,000	43,740	80,710	95,140	85,660
Greece	525	453	531	530	516	17.8	16.2	18.5	22.4	-	9,365	7,359	9,800	11,870	-
Ireland	118	147	225	188	170	45.9	45.8	51.6	55.9	47.0	5,413	6,739	11,620	10,500	8,000
Italy	475	603	626	615	615	20.9	15.7	19.6	23.3	21.1	9,950	9,467	12,250	14,330	12,950
Netherlands	107	139	172	255	155	55.5	51.4	64.0	56.2	58.6	5,934	7,147	11,000	14,340	9,090
Norway	143	99	158	201	216	38.2	40.5	43.0	47.3	47.2	5,467	4,014	6,790	9,500	10,200
Portugal	320	322	387	392	397	12.8	11.9	14.2	14.0	13.6	4,100	3,835	5,500	5,500	5,400
Spain	8/ 4,549	3,979	3,954	3,947	3,979 8/	21.3	21.0	25.9	18.5	24.2 8/	97,059	83,528	102,420	73,030	96,450
Sweden	252	226	377	471	413	39.5	36.5	40.1	46.1	40.5	9,951	8,252	15,100	21,700	16,730
Switzerland	13	66	59	61	59	33.1	41.6	47.8	47.2	46.8	430	2,745	2,820	2,880	2,760
United Kingdom	934	2,120	2,281	2,226	2,054	39.2	43.3	47.8	49.1	47.6	36,596	91,895	108,920	109,240	97,770
Yugoslavia	1,045	-	-	-	-	18.0	-	-	-	-	18,800	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	14,100	14,370	16,560	17,430	16,920	-	-	-	-	-	413,000	428,000	597,000	634,000	615,000
Other Europe, estimated total 9/	9,210	7,830	8,420	8,240	8,140	-	-	-	-	-	253,000	172,000	208,000	196,000	190,000
All Europe, estimated total 5/	23,310	22,200	24,980	25,670	25,060	-	-	-	-	-	666,000	600,000	805,000	830,000	805,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	26,600	19,800	-	-	-	16.0	13.7	-	-	-	425,000	272,000	-	-	-

ASIA															
Iran	7/ 1,545	1,687	1,977	1,977	1,975	7/ 23.1	22.0	19.5	19.1	19.2	7/ 35,728	37,157	38,600	37,700	37,850
Iraq	7/ 1,932	1,901	2,200	2,400	-	7/ 12.2	15.5	13.6	20.8	-	23,635	29,502	29,850	50,000	-
Lebanon	10/	52	30	30	-	10/	22.4	23.0	23.0	-	10/	1,165	690	690	-
Syria	10/ 793	867	770	930	1,225	10/ 19.4	12.8	13.6	14.8	13.1	10/ 15,386	11,135	10,500	13,800	16,000
Turkey	4,592	4,235	5,713	6,019	6,175	20.9	16.2	25.6	26.7	18.6	96,129	68,675	146,470	160,750	115,000
China	7/ 16,000	15,521	15,800	-	-	7/ 21.7	20.8	20.3	-	-	7/ 347,000	322,244	320,000	-	-
Manchuria	7/ 353	250	-	-	-	7/ 18.3	22.2	-	-	-	7/ 6,462	5,550	-	-	-
India 11/	7/ 5,793	6,900	7,800	8,100	8,190	7/ 15.6	15.4	12.8	13.3	15.5	7/ 90,253	106,255	100,000	107,500	127,000
Pakistan 11/	7/ 486	547	532	521	563	7/ 14.5	12.7	12.0	10.0	-	7/ 7,047	6,922	6,400	5,200	-
Japan	1,888	2,137	2,301	2,261	2,500	38.7	26.2	38.8	38.4	42.6	73,113	56,046	89,190	86,900	106,450
Korea	2,671	-	-	-	-	18.6	-	-	-	-	49,656	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	37,860	37,720	40,260	42,080	42,400	-	-	-	-	-	768,000	692,000	787,000	843,000	828,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	3,051	2,227	3,300	3,086	3,200	10.9	12.6	14.5	10.8	11.6	33,132	28,120	48,000	33,200	37,200
Egypt	276	260	140	120	127	38.8	33.1	39.3	45.9	47.7	10,697	8,605	5,500	5,510	6,060
French Morocco	4,448	3,728	5,100	4,900	4,450	12.0	12.7	11.0	16.9	16.5	53,279	47,322	56,000	82,950	73,500
Tunisia	1,182	1,257	1,829	1,400	1,600	7.7	6.3	8.8	5.9	4.7	9,048	7,901	16,100	8,300	7,500
Union of South Africa	7/ 86	105	-	-	-	7/ 18.1	16.6	-	-	-	1,555	1,740	2,600	-	-
Estimated total 5/	10,310	8,880	12,470	11,620	11,450	-	-	-	-	-	121,000	107,000	150,000	155,000	150,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,286	1,693	2,075	1,572	-	17.6	21.0	26.0	24.2	-	22,586	35,576	53,950	38,100	-
Chile	184	132	165	165	-	27.4	30.5	39.4	30.3	-	5,041	4,030	6,500	5,000	-
Uruguay	44	65	62	105	-	14.8	13.0	16.5	17.1	-	649	846	1,020	1,800	-
Estimated total 5/	2,140	2,660	3,320	2,900	2,980	-	-	-	-	-	38,000	53,000	80,000	65,000	65,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	648	868	1,370	1,700	-	18.0	19.4	26.6	22.2	-	11,651	16,854	36,510	38,260	-
New Zealand	24	56	55	58	-	39.7	39.7	40.5	44.8	-	952	2,223	2,230	2,600	-
Total	672	924	1,425	1,758	1,705	-	-	-	-	-	12,603	19,077	38,740	40,860	37,500
Estimated world total 5/	116,370	110,070	121,240	122,560	127,420	-	-	-	-	-	2,362,000	2,167,000	2,735,000	2,755,000	2,825,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1954 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1954 and end early in 1955. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production, are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Data for individual years shown are not strictly comparable with averages shown since recent estimates exclude data for farms of less than 2.5 acres. 7/ Average of less than 5 years. 8/ Figure for 1935 only. 9/ Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 10/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. 11/ Figures for the period shown are not strictly comparable since figures for 1952-54 include allowances for non-reporting areas, which were excluded from earlier figures shown, but were included in estimated total for Asia.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-54 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average 1935-39	Average 1945-49	1952	1953	1954 4/	Average 1935-39	Average 1945-49	1952	1953	1954 4/	Average 1935-39	Average 1945-49	1952	1953	1954 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushesl	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada 5/	13,246	12,021	11,062	9,830	10,161	25.5	28.4	42.2	41.4	36.0	338,071	341,612	466,805	406,960	365,437
Mexico	29	108	203	205	-	16.0	19.9	17.3	18.5	-	465	2,152	3,520	3,800	-
United States	35,761	40,184	38,422	39,358	41,980	29.2	34.3	32.8	30.9	36.0	1,045,329	1,376,527	1,260,127	1,216,416	1,509,386
Estimated total 6/	49,040	52,310	49,690	49,390	52,340	-	-	-	-	-	1,384,000	1,720,000	1,730,000	1,627,000	1,879,000
EUROPE															
Austria	686	534	545	544	519	41.9	32.6	50.1	52.9	44.7	28,746	17,424	27,300	28,800	23,200
Belgium 7/	548	518	40[illegible]	392	419	74.7	73.1	78.0	79.6	83.5	40,946	37,888	31,900	31,220	35,000
Denmark	932	822	-	601	618	75.3	82.5	-	94.3	88.9	70,205	67,820	66,140	56,700	54,910
Finland	1,030	931	1,225	1,240	1,200	43.7	37.9	47.3	53.2	50.8	45,000	35,275	58,000	66,000	61,000
France	8,089	6,110	5,622	5,608	5,300	40.7	36.3	41.1	45.0	45.2	329,304	221,821	231,130	252,340	239,570
Western Germany	8/ 3,370	2,892	2,748	2,606	2,496	8/ 57.7	50.0	65.6	67.5	67.3	8/ 194,500	144,500	180,270	175,970	168,100
Greece	350	312	377	368	351	24.3	19.4	21.3	31.3	-	8,510	6,058	8,040	11,520	-
Ireland	571	819	640	600	560	68.8	58.7	64.1	67.5	66.1	39,265	48,040	41,000	40,500	37,000
Italy	1,062	1,138	1,147	1,139	1,144	35.9	26.8	30.5	36.8	33.4	38,150	30,513	35,000	41,900	38,240
Luxembourg	65	54	51	55	47	44.8	43.9	53.9	52.9	55.7	2,910	2,370	2,750	2,910	2,620
Netherlands	360	378	376	386	350	71.6	63.8	89.5	90.5	87.8	25,769	24,125	33,660	34,940	30,730
Norway	212	195	198	179	173	61.0	57.1	56.1	68.9	65.8	12,940	11,137	11,100	12,340	11,380
Portugal	865	914	750	770	770	12.0	9.0	12.8	11.7	11.2	10,350	8,270	9,580	9,000	8,650
Spain	9/ 1,848	1,566	1,483	1,490	1,495	9/ 21.3	22.0	25.4	20.5	24.0	9/ 39,369	34,390	37,700	30,520	35,830
Sweden	1,641	1,300	1,274	1,214	1,182	53.1	44.6	44.0	54.1	50.0	87,198	58,000	56,110	65,660	59,100
Switzerland	28	86	65	74	72	56.9	64.7	79.7	81.9	72.2	1,593	5,568	5,180	6,060	5,200
United Kingdom	2,430	3,443	2,882	2,840	2,600	57.0	59.5	67.3	69.5	62.9	138,628	204,692	194,040	197,470	163,590
Yugoslavia	893	-	-	-	-	24.5	-	-	-	-	21,900	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	24,980	22,960	21,380	20,980	20,170	-	-	-	-	-	1,135,000	980,000	1,047,000	1,086,000	1,002,000
Other Europe, estimated total 10/	11,110	9,290	9,580	9,480	9,550	-	-	-	-	-	473,000	313,000	355,000	357,000	353,000
Estimated total, all Europe 6/	36,090	32,250	30,960	30,460	29,720	-	-	-	-	-	1,608,000	1,293,000	1,402,000	1,443,000	1,355,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	49,500	35,100	-	-	-	23.5	20.5	-	-	-	1,165,000	720,000	-	-	-

ASIA															
Syria	11/ 24	22	-	-	-	11/ 27.6	26.1	-	-	-	11/ 662	574	-	-	-
Turkey	636	642	880	788	815	26.6	21.8	31.7	36.1	25.4	16,893	14,000	27,900	28,450	20,670
China	8/ 2,600	2,365	2,400	-	-	8/ 23.1	21.7	23.3	-	-	8/ 60,000	51,335	56,000	-	-
Japan	310	227	203	215	-	37.0	28.3	46.8	46.8	-	11,481	6,431	9,500	10,060	-
Korea	8/ 242	-	-	-	-	8/ 11.2	-	-	-	-	8/ 2,718	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	4,010	3,930	4,480	4,570	4,580	-	-	-	-	-	96,000	84,000	111,000	113,000	105,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	465	420	448	445	445	23.4	18.3	21.9	18.0	18.7	10,359	7,694	9,810	3,000	8,300
French Morocco	104	95	141	-	-	26.5	25.0	30.0	-	-	2,751	2,376	4,230	-	-
Tunisia	84	70	52	57	-	19.9	13.7	16.0	13.9	-	1,674	958	830	790	-
Union of South Africa	8/ 544	756	-	-	-	8/ 12.8	11.1	-	-	-	6,966	8,415	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	1,220	1,370	1,360	1,350	1,380	-	-	-	-	-	23,000	20,000	24,000	22,000	23,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,974	1,709	2,380	1,319	-	25.4	28.0	36.7	36.4	-	50,182	47,782	87,450	66,140	-
Chile	279	216	247	250	-	27.5	24.6	29.6	26.2	-	7,670	5,310	7,300	6,550	-
Uruguay	213	172	145	185	-	14.6	16.5	18.6	18.9	-	3,100	2,840	2,700	3,500	-
Estimated total 6/	2,490	2,130	2,820	2,300	2,380	-	-	-	-	-	62,000	57,000	98,000	77,000	76,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	1,593	1,860	2,764	2,271	-	14.7	17.9	19.7	19.3	-	23,351	33,249	54,530	43,750	-
New Zealand	63	61	50	25	-	56.2	60.1	59.6	60.0	-	3,539	3,669	2,980	1,500	-
Total	1,656	1,921	2,814	2,296	2,040	-	-	-	-	-	26,890	36,918	57,510	45,250	38,200
Estimated world total 6/	144,010	129,010	133,620	130,370	133,440	-	-	-	-	-	4,365,000	3,930,000	4,400,000	4,155,000	4,400,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1954 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1954 and end early in 1955. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Data for individual years shown are not strictly comparable with averages shown, since recent estimates exclude data for farms of less than 2.5 acres. 8/ Average of less than 5 years. 9/ Figure for 1935 only. 10/ Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Rumania. 11/ Includes estimate for Lebanon, and is, therefore, not comparable with estimates shown for later years.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Both acreage and yields were at a near-record level. Production of oats in Canada is placed at 365 million bushels, on the basis of the September official forecast. Some reduction may be expected in the next estimate, as in the case for barley.

Barley production in Europe, at 805 million bushels is a little below the 1953 outturn but is about 20 percent above the 1935-39 average, because of larger acreage and higher yields. Expansion in barley acreage has been largest in France and the United Kingdom, these two countries alone accounting for 80 percent of the increase. Barley acreage in eastern Europe appears to have been reduced from the prewar average partially offsetting the over-all increase for western Europe.

Production of oats in Europe is estimated at 1,355 million bushels, about 6 percent less than in 1953 and 15 percent below the prewar average. The reduction from the prewar level is due to reduced acreage since yields were slightly higher this season than during that period. Acreage reductions were general in Eastern Europe as well as in Western Europe.

Indications are that acreage under barley and oats in the Soviet Union increased this year. The increase appears to have resulted from some shift to feed grains from acreage in perennial grasses, which was greatly expanded in the postwar period. Despite the return of part of that area to barley and oats, the acreage under those grains appears to remain somewhat below the prewar level. Drought in the southern regions of the Union adversely affected spring grains, of which barley is important in those regions. Good weather conditions in eastern regions contributed to a better outturn for oats, which is more important than barley in those areas.

Barley production in Asia is slightly smaller than in 1953 but is above the prewar figure because of expanded acreage. A good part of the reduction from last year's large crop is in Turkey. Unfavorable conditions in that country reduced yields sharply and the current estimate offsets larger crops in some other areas, especially India and Japan.

Production of oats in Asia is estimated at 105 million bushels compared with 113 million a year ago. Lower yields, especially in Turkey, account for the reduction. Total acreage is estimated to be about the same as in 1953.

Barley production in Africa, estimated at 150 million bushels, is slightly smaller than in 1953, though well above the prewar average. Conditions were variable within the area, with better yields than in 1953 reported for Algeria and Egypt but smaller yields for French Morocco and Tunisia. The 4 countries, together, account for more than 80 percent of the continental total. The oats crop in Africa, placed at 23 million bushels is not significantly changed from the 1953 total.

While it is too early for reliable indications of production in Southern Hemisphere countries, unofficial estimates for Argentina indicate that acreage of barley and oats will be about the same as in 1953. Growing conditions have been generally favorable and the outlook for above-average crops is good. In Australia, the other important producer of the Southern Hemisphere, both oats and barley acreages are believed to be below the 1953 acreage.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other Foreign Agricultural Service representatives abroad.

TRADE DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

National Development Bank of Honduras Aids Export Industries: The National Development Bank of Honduras announced that it will continue its program of constructing rice and coffee processing centers as well as storage facilities for those and other products. The Bank is looking forward to the day when Honduran rice production will again be more than sufficient for local needs, with an export surplus, and the new rice-processing facilities at Puerto Cortes appear to have been located in that port city with an eye to the export trade.

The coffee center to be established at the southwestern provincial city of Marcala is intended to provide modern coffee washing and drying facilities and thus place Honduran coffee in a better position in the world market. Coffee production there has shown a steady increase during the past three years.

Costa Rica Reduces Import Duty on Selected Products: Under Presidential Decree No. 22, effective in September of this year, the Costa Rican import duties on several agricultural and other products were reduced below the rates established in the Import Tariff Schedule of March 31, 1954. The agricultural commodities concerned, together with the tariff numbers and the new duties are:

Tariff No.		New Duties: Colones per Gr. Kilo	/ Ad Valorem Rate
59	Oats, unground	0.05	4%
68c	Oats	0.35	4%
79	Dietetic cereal foods	0.30	4%
95a	Fruit pulp and pastes for infants	1.80	10%
95b	Fruit pulp and pastes, other	3.60	20%
113a	Vegetable soups for infant feeding	3.00	2%
113b	Vegetable soups, other	6.00	4%

Mexican Sugar for Japanese Fishing Boats: Unofficial reports indicate that Japan wants to barter fishing boats for 50,000 tons yearly of unrefined sugar from Mexico over the next 5-year period. The report states that the decision rests with the Mexican Government.

Communist Chinese Trade Mission in India: A Communist Chinese trade mission arrived in New Delhi, India on September 19 to conclude a Chinese-Indian trade agreement which has been the subject of negotiations since China's Foreign Minister, Chou En-lai, visited India in June. The mission is headed by Kung Yuan, Communist China's vice-Minister of Foreign Trade. Before returning to China the mission will visit various production and metropolitan centers in India to survey possibilities of increasing trade between the two countries.

Trade between India and China historically has been rather limited and has been declining in recent years. During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1954 India's imports from China amounted to the equivalent of only $4.7 million, and exports of China $3.8 million. This trade represented less than one-fifth of one percent of India's imports and exports. Despite the present low level of trade, the American Embassy in New Delhi reports that it is generally expected that both Governments will make determined efforts to expand trade within the terms of the forthcoming agreement.

Reportedly, Indian interest in China is currently very high and many Indian individuals and groups have indicated plans to visit China in the near future. Announced trips to China include Prime Minister Nehru's scheduled visit in October, several members of India's Parliament, missions of Indian businessmen, labor delegations, women's organizations, and cultural groups.

Sweden's Trade Liberalization: Additional information concerning Sweden's liberalization of imports from the dollar area indicates that the following agricultural commodities are now completely free of quantitative restrictions: cotton, wool, rice, dried fruits, nuts, canned fruits and fruit juices, fresh and canned vegetables, hops, horseradish, rosin, and live poultry, as well as a number of minor products of agricultural origin.

Certain other products have been placed on a so-called "transit dollar" list. Commodities on this list are still subject to licensing, but it is stated that licenses will be granted freely. However, payments must be made in "transit dollars" obtained at a premium rate. (Presumably, the supply of "transit dollars" is limited.)

Some of the "transit dollar" commodities can also be obtained at the normal exchange rate under the import plan for commodities subject to regular licensing. Tobacco and flaxseed are on the "transit dollar" list, as well as oranges, lemons, grapefruit, grapes, peaches and berries. Pears will be added as of November 15 and apples on January 1.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Issued recently and available free upon request from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

Norway's Cotton Outlook. FC 32-54.

Mexico Harvesting Record Cotton Crop. FC 33-54.

Monthly Report on Brazilian Coffee Situation. FCB 24-54.

Recent Developments in Exchange Restrictions. FATP 7-54